



We, the Associated Students of Whitworth University, are committed to promoting holistic growth, safety, well-being, and a united fellowship. We shall advocate for the diverse voices of our student body justly and with compassion, establishing an equitable community through grace, respect, and intentional engagement.

2020-21 ASWU Meeting Minutes | September 9th, 2020

In Attendance:

Parker Daniels President	present
Hannah Higgins Exec. Vice President	present
Faizzan Ul Haq Financial Vice President	present
Jorge Medina Exec. Admin. Assistant	present
Emily Clemons Campus Activities Coordinator	present
Lauren Lorenz Sports Events Coordinator	present
John Haberlin Sustainability Coordinator	present
Katie Ludlam Senior Class Coordinator	late
Aeron Sugui PR/Marketing Coordinator	present
Sam Henson Special Events Coordinator	present
Rachel Ayres Spiritual Life Coordinator	present
Esther Brown Cultural Events Coordinator	present
Katie Rose Club Coordinator	present
Olivia Fowler Oliver Senator	present
Jaedon Tesarik McMillan Senator	present
Meghan Duarte Ballard Senator	present
Jed Young Boppell and Village Senator	present
Tim Leslie Stewart Senator	present
David Martin Off-Campus Senator	present

Meeting brought to order at 5:00 PM in RTT.

Mission Statement read by Tim Leslie

Guest Speaker

President Beck Taylor: We have worked so hard to bring students back and having a chance to smile and talk to students it is easy to tell people are excited to be back on campus. We need to protect the gift of being on campus and although there may be challenges, we hope to have a great year. I want to show my sincere appreciation for ASWUs leadership during these times. I will be leaning hard on you and our campus will as well, so I want you to know how grateful we are. The executive team shared ASWUs goal and they overlapped with much of my own. I am thinking of the health and wellbeing of our students and our number 1 goal is to allow our students to complete our education and seniors to complete their last year and graduate on time. Ability of our campus to think well of racism and the tragic summer we have as we are reminded of how our brown and black sisters and brothers have been treated unjustly. We want to move whitworth to be a more antiracist organization. Will be sending email that reminds us of the work that needs to be done. We need to model for our community what civil discourse looks like. We want to make sure that topics are debated well and that we elect leaders that will advance our country closer to the aspirations we have for our country. I Hope you fulfill and reach your aspirations as student government.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Jed, Seconded by Olivia

In favor: 6 | Opposed: 0 | Abstaining 0

Motion passes

President Updates

Parker:

We are proposing a bylaw revision, in these trying times we propose the act of god clause to allow the executive council to present changes to the constitution to the assembly without a student body vote.

Rachel: can you give an example?

Parker: with the representatives we have an idea of adding new reps

Faizzan: This will not give us all the power it would still have to pass the assembly

Hannah: Without the article we would have to go to a student wide vote that would be too much work for a small vote

Emily: I move to approve bylaw

David: I second

Tim: some of my other concerned members have taken your version about your bylaw but upon conversations with constituents I will be voting against because it is too broad and does not specify much of anything. We proposed a sunset amendment that specifies that all constitution amendment will have to pass with act of clause – we should not put a broad bylaw.

Parker: can you read your version?

Tim: Section 1: In the case of an Act of God, as defined by the Definitions Clause, any elected ASWU member may present proposed constitutional changes to the ASWU Assembly without it being placed on the ASWU ballot. These constitutional amendments must benefit the student body in relation to the Act of God. In addition, both the constitutional amendments and this bylaw may only be in place for the 2020-2021 academic year. Section 2: Definitions Clause. An Act of God is defined as an instance of uncontrollable natural forces in operation.

Jason: Why out this for one year and not in case something happens later on?

Tim: I and others are uncomfortable with the premise of the whole but know it will be necessary this year with the zone rep problems – it should be up to each ASWU council if they want to do this

Faizzan: The main difference is that in yours an elected representative can be senator vs ours that has to go through the committee – in yours you are presenting the same thing you didn't want but now it's fine

Tim: not the only change not just the senator any elected member could present – we wanted a way for other members to present a proposal. What if

member presents and execs reject despite wide support? Our version I have is bigger picture taking into concerns that come with the power given through act of god clause. I think its better to not take a risk and pass a more stable bylaw and support ending ours

Jed: I helped create this amendment and agree that with zone reps there are problems that need to be fixed but other senators had problems in changing the constitution our solution could be the best of both worlds – we have the votes

Hannah: the sunset provision we do have the provision that any amendments would die at the end of the year, if an act of god happens again, they would have to go through this process again which is concerning to me that this will die after this year

Parker: I did like defining the act of god however I believe it's more reigned out if any member can bring up a proposal means that there can be like 5 different things with contradictions. I don't see how we have that much power in being able to propose it doesn't mean you can't propose anything you can still go through us.

Faizzan: senators you are here to represent your constituents and Tim you were talking about how it is an abuse of power but there is a reason there is an elected community

Olivia – I move to add 10 mins

David seconds motion

In favor: 3 | Opposed: 2 | Abstaining 1
Motion passes

Faizzan: as our elected committee we are here for you we are not here to harm the community. You can still present a motion but there should be a fine line between who can pass the motion and there should be a governing body

Tim: I understand the struggle of any council will have to do this but from my perspective it is better that the council wrestles with the idea of changing the

constitution. Our version is not final we addressed the concerns we had but I don't think any senators would be opposed to sitting down and talking about it. There could be issues with everyone presenting their motion

Jaedon: I second what Tim was saying I just want to add we are not opposed to working with you we wanted to act the definition and we are flexible with who can propose, I am not comfortable giving ASWU this much power and we want students to have a say and want this to be passed as soon as possible

Olivia: I talked to a lot of people and they had the same worry about them not being able to vote they understand why it's needed but are concerned about not being able to vote in the future that's why I believe having the bylaw and changes just this year would be beneficial

David: this is to propose change to constitution, right?

John: the definition seems to be the main problem so I'm curious as to where the other problems lay – if you add a clear cut decision then it would be a clear decision – if we add the sunset amendment there will be more unexpected events and will keep happening and create more chaos ultimately

Sam: I agree with john to have our clause end at the end of the year then we might as well call it the COVID 19 clause the act of god clause should be something that lasts, there are many accidents all the time and an act of god clause should last and appeal to acts of god not just this one since it should not end at the end of the year and not add clauses each year

Katie Rose: I agree with john and sam that it should extend to a larger audience that includes covid19 but not exclude senators, it sounds like you should table this and you need to work with the execs and a collaboration that everyone can agree with I think we are just going to argue now and if we pick one or the other some people will not be happy

Hannah: I appreciate the senator's tenacity and it is important to be strong willed when representing students. I also appreciate the act of god definition, but the exec council needs to be involved similar to financial committee. The sunset clause for the bylaw does not make sense to me. Tabling this for next week is a decision not to be taken lightly

Jed: I move that we adopt the language of Tim's revised bylaw

Katie Rose: your motion is to adopt the definition?

Jed: I want everything to be adopted

Olivia: If this is something to choose to do is there something we can vote on at the end of the year to permanently keep it in the bylaw.

Hannah: I would caution that things change, and circumstances may change

Tim: I second the motion of approving the language of our revised bylaw

In favor: 5 | Opposed: 1 | Abstaining 0
Motion Passes

Parker: I sent an email about committees we need to have that filled out we need, email me and committees need to be filled by end of the week.

FVP Updates

Faizzan: we have \$20,000 in each account, and the finance committee meets first weekend of each month and email if you want to be a part of it

Capital: \$20,000

Unallocated: \$ 20,000

EVP Updates

Hannah: For the meal cards I will say a code word and if you want a meal card meet me at ASWU front desk & tell me code word

We are proposing some new rep positions which include 4 off campus, 1 flex, and 2 incoming student reps

Motion by Katie Rose to approve new positions

Seconded by Tim

Olivia: I had a lot of questions about incoming students who wonder how that's going to work and if they are going to be overrepresented

Hannah: that is a possibility but that's why we only wanted 2 incoming reps I don't think that's going to be a problem especially this year and they are an important source of feed back

In favor: 5 | Opposed: 0 | Abstaining 1
Motion passes

Hannah: there are concerns of bylaws regarding campaign guidelines that would not work well. Anyone running for a position must live in that res hall for safety concerns. Senatorial candidates may only post in their hall and rep candidates may only post physical posters in the HUB. In fall 2020 there may be no in person debates, speeches, or rallies. Active campaigning would now apply to social media so that we can monitor their campaign.

Katie Rose: are they in place from now on or the school year?

Hannah: these are in the bylaws so this would until someone removes it

Katie: the first sentence is grammatically incorrect

Tim: The language that says fall 2020, would that make it apply only for this year?

Hannah: the stipulation about social media would also carry over

Olivia: when it comes to elections next year and in the spring can someone from another res hall run?

Hannah: Yes, that would be permitted

Rachel: will the red be deleted and if yellow is changed what will be left after?

Hannah: In that case it would return to the original document through a vote

Rachel: do you want to say the wording except for fall 2020?

Tim: I motion approve Hannah's changes with Rachels stipulation as a friendly amendment

Olivia seconds

In favor: 6 | Opposed: 0 | Abstaining 0

Motion passes

Hannah: this is the proposed elections timeline with applications due on September 21st campaigning for primary elections would open on October 1st primary would be the 5-6th and general election 9-10th of October.

Jed moves to approve timetable

Olivia seconds

In favor: 5 | Opposed: 0 | Abstaining 1

Motion passes

Hannah: office hours are up on my door and senators are expected to meet weekly newsletters are also due at 5 tomorrow

Student highlight – sophie and dani did a great job putting on orientation and did a fantastic job

Upcoming Events

BINGO:

Sam: bingo is this Friday night at 8 pm livestreaming on YouTube I will be sending emails on which roles to be filled. Pick up bingo at hub info desk for those off campus we can send pictures

Faizzan: can ASWU members play?

Sam: No ASWU members cannot play

Tim: can you email senators link for the name to click on to go to the livestream

Jason: it is on HFS and on orientation schedule

Faizzan: it is easier to have QR code

Olivia: can you send us posters to send out to RAs

Scavenger Hunt:

Emily: On sat @2 meet in RTT. Will be a good way for people to explore campus and win actual money. I don't know how much help I'll need

Drive-In Movie:

Jason: sat @ 7 pm in parking lot by admission building showing Ferris bueller's day off. We will need help

Meghan: should we contact you to help

Jason: we will send out email and we are limited in space so get tickets soon

Rachel: what time do you want us to be there to help

Jason: depends on role

Expressions of Solidarity:

Esther: platform for students to display art and music on campus or online. Challenge to confront racial injustice goal is to bring student body together through art. Submissions due 17th and email ebrown21@my.whitworth.edu

Constituency Reports

Stewart

Tim: Stewart is doing well so far on multiple occasions have seen socially distant hang outs in lounges and that is nice to see people bonding and making connections

McMillan

Jaedon: along the same vein they are getting together and hanging outside together especially this year

Off Campus

David: similar note except off campus I have talked to a few students who seemed excited to join in on events and flex are looking forward to online ones

Ballard

Meghan: everyone is happy to be online and on campus Ballard and mac have been hanging outside and doing well

Oliver

Olivia: doing good freshman getting together, have had problems with internet and zoom meetings dropping out also lost water for 12 hours but got that up and running

Boppell

Jed: doing good, just starting out as lots of constituents came later and am glad they are here. When I put things with blue tape, I have trouble making things stick

Campus Vibes

Emily: I heard people want to buy the orientation shirts so shoutout to Sophie

Oliva: heard a lot of good things about orientation

Katie R: virtual fair was good and got some good feedback so if senators could send out QR code with list of clubs to get it out to students

Sam: good vibe heard freshman say tradition was fun and had blast

Bad vibe hear off campus students saying that it's not for us in terms of being safe and distant and university has not given much language to off campus residence

Jason: we can't give off campus residents specific instructions and tell them what to do

Parker: friends were frofing and first years picked up frisbee and tossed it back

John: talked to students and keep an eye out for students whose family back home may have to be evacuating because of fires

Hannah: if you know someone who is being quarantined check in on them and online students too

Jason: getting a lot of issues with new students who are starting to feel homesick and students already wanting to leave so send students to the right place and right people

Shout outs

Parker: Shout out to Katie luds for the last first day senior event tonight.

Tim: Shoutout to Hannah Jason and exec squad for the constitution changes and reordering rules and new rep positions

Katie luds: shout out to all those that helped at my event and shoutout to my seniors it's our first last day and impressed with positivity

Jason: all a major shout out for orientation it was long, and you stepped in and did everything well Thanks for being rock stars

Sam: shout out to those who did temp checks

Adjourn Meeting

Motion by Jed, Seconded by Tim

In Favor: 6 | Opposed: 0 | Abstaining: 0

Motion Passes

Meeting adjourned: 6:15